

JUN 5 1963



# *The* **Macdonald** **FARM** *Journal*

**MAY 1963**

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THE MACDONALD LASSIE



# MARKET OUTLOOK

## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Indicators	1949	1961-62	1962-63
Index of Industrial Production, Canada, January	100	174	189
Labour Income, Canada, December	100	203	216
Consumer Price Index Food, Montreal, March	100	134	133
Cash Farm Income, Quebec, January-December, Millions	321	437	442
Net Farm Income, Quebec, Annual, Millions	204	195	195 (est.)
Farm Prices, Quebec, February	100	106	106
Cost of Goods and Services Used by Farmers, Eastern Canada, January	100	143	144
Farm Price of Milk for Ice Cream and Concentration, Quebec Dollars per Cwt., January	\$2.67	\$2.80	\$2.81
Price Canada A. Hogs, Montreal, April 18	\$28.68	\$27.40	\$25.00
Price Good Steers, Montreal, April 18	\$30.10	\$24.90	\$24.75

## REGIONALISM IN AGRICULTURE

The data below reveal a major Canadian agricultural problem — one generally lost in the politician's efforts to be all things to all men. The problem is the very wide regional differences in farm incomes. The per farm "take-home pay" from farming operations in the Prairies is four to five times as high as in the Maritimes; in Quebec farm incomes are double these of the Maritimes.

The Minister of Agriculture has admitted that Canadian farm policy is Prairie oriented. A rational farm policy would require disproportionately greater attention to the Maritimes and the Province of Quebec. These regions particularly require aggressive adjustment and development programmes more than they require agricultural stabilization measures. It would make good sense for the federal and provincial governments to finance such large scale programmes for the Maritimes and Quebec — far beyond anything conceived in A.R.D.A. This is in the national interest since the most important resource of any country is its working force. To have very large numbers of farm workers chronically producing a fraction as much as farm workers in other areas is clearly contrary to the national interest.

### REAL NET INCOME PER FARM (1949 constant dollars)

Region	1949	1961
Maritimes	889	605
Quebec	1,510	1,314
Ontario	2,328	1,922
Prairies	3,324	2,705
British Columbia	2,001	1,796
Canada	2,399	1,991

The real income of Canadian farm workers in 1961 was less than half that of workers in other industries. And judging from the figures cited the situation has worsened considerably over the past ten to fifteen years. The real income of farmers dropped by some 15 per cent, while that of non-farm workers increased by more than 40 per cent. Farm policy discussions should start from a recognition of the basic income problem of agriculture and its regional implications.

## COLLEGE NEWS

Dr. Howard Stepler, Chairman of the Dept. of Agronomy at Macdonald College has been selected as President-elect of the Agricultural Institute of Canada. Dr. Stepler has been chairman of Macdonald College's Dept. of Agronomy since 1955. Prior to this, he served in the department as assistant and associate professor of agronomy. Dr. Stepler has had a long association with the A.I.C. having served as a director of the national organization and president of the Macdonald College branch of the A.I.C. Dr. Stepler is also a member of La Corporation des Agronomes de la Province de Quebec.

Mr. John Elliott, Agricultural Fieldman with the Department of Extension is leaving on June 30th for Michigan State University for graduate work in Extension.

Mr. Galen Driver, Kingsbury, Quebec is working with the Department of Extension during the summer and will assume the duties of secretary of the Quebec Farm Forum Association and the Quebec Farmers Association in September.

Seventy-two students have completed their studies in Agriculture and Home Economics at Macdonald College. Many of them will be attending Spring Convocation to be held May 31st on the McGill campus.

Dr. David MacFarlane, Chairman of the Dept. of Agricultural Economics is leaving for Poland on May 19th. He'll be speaking to the Agriculture and Forestry sections of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Polish Society on the European Common Market and North American Agricultural Policy.

Macdonald College's Better Farming Day will be held July 5th, 1963.

## NEXT MONTH — DAIRY MONTH

Next month — is dairy month in Canada. One important dairy product which doesn't receive much attention is cheese. In next month's Journal, we will feature a special article on the facts and figures of cheese in Quebec. In addition, there'll be a special article on nutrition that will be of interest to all female readers. Plans are being made, too, for an unusual cover picture for next month's Journal. Watch for it.



## INSIDE . . . IN OTTAWA . . .

The new Minister of Agriculture's job will not be easy. Hon. Harry Hays of Calgary will have to face the demands of 440 thousand Canadian farmers. He also has to face the Honorable Alvin Hamilton, the past Minister of Agriculture, a very able politician. Mr. Hamilton won't make life easy for the present minister. This is especially true since Mr. Hamilton is the hero of the Conservative party. Rightly so, too, for Mr. Hamilton was a dynamic, far-sighted leader. This was reflected in the feelings of Ontario and Prairie farmers at the recent election. Mr. Hays will find Mr. Hamilton a tough opposition agricultural spokesman. Having both in the house in Ottawa is a good thing for Canadian Agriculture.

To assist Mr. Hays, the Liberal government has appointed a Minister without Portfolio, Hon. René Tremblay, destined to become the Minister of Agriculture for Eastern Canada. This is the first time in history the Canadian government has had two ministers of Agriculture and the first time a Minister of Agriculture has come from Quebec since 1912.

While neither one of these gentlemen has had experience in parliament, they do have experience in agriculture. With two Ministers in Cabinet, one from the East and one from the West, their experience should benefit Canadian farmers.

The real challenge for the present government is to move on from the aggressive programs of the previous agricultural administration and to carry on in the aggressive manner which typified the Hon. Mr. Hamilton.

Considerable business has to be accomplished in these first sixty days of Canada's new government. Agriculture, must form an important part of this business.

To the Hon. Mr. Hays and the Hon. Mr. Tremblay, we extend our greetings. We hope they will demonstrate dynamic leadership and impart drive to their administration.

### *Sir William MacDonald*

"Sir William abhorred wastefulness, even in small things. Finding on the headlands of a field on the College property some few pounds out of tons of tobacco stems he had sent out for use as fertilizer he reproved Prof. Blair for not having had even this plowed in. "Do you waste your money on tobacco?" he asked Dr. Harrison when he found him smoking."

"Although a man of great wealth he lived plainly, simply, frugally and naturally. The luxuries of life, the vulgar display of wealth, the setting of himself above his fellowmen had no appeal to him."

These are two statements from the newly published book, *The History of Macdonald College*. Its publication marks the first attempt to set down in chronological order the story of Sir William Macdonald and the building, organization and staffing of Macdonald College. Written by the late John Ferguson Snell, a former professor of chemistry and Honorary Historian of the College, the history from 1904 - 1955 is flavoured with many witty and engaging anecdotes about the people connected with the college and about Sir William Macdonald himself.

The history is a tribute to our founder, a man whose ideas have had an influence on every English speaking farmer in Eastern Canada. To those graduates of Macdonald College, the book will bring back happy memories. To the farmers of the Province of Quebec, it will remind them of the college's concern for agriculture, home economics and education. To everyone, the history will bring many hours of enjoyment as they catch the drama of Sir William's plans and dreams, so ably captured by the author.

The book is available from the McGill University Press. We recommend it for your library.

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# THE CHANGING FARM CREDIT PICTURE IN QUEBEC

Cecil B. Haver

The farm credit picture is changing and farm people should be aware of these changes so they may use improved credit arrangements to adjust their farm operations to rapidly changing farm conditions.

Farm credit arrangements in Quebec are as favourable as found anywhere in Canada. In addition to the usual private and institutional arrangements Quebec like the other provinces enjoys the use of federal credit institutions and its own set of provincial lending arrangements. Quebec, unlike some of her sister provinces, did not retire from the long term credit field when the Farm Credit Corporation was formed. In addition the province stepped into the intermediate term credit field with its own Farm Improvement Act, (Bill 75) in 1961, which like the Federal Farm Improvement Act operates

through the chartered banks on an insured or guaranteed loan basis. In the intermediate and long term credit field the Quebec provincial government offers the farmer-lender a substantial interest rebate. For the large scale commercial farmer and the non-farmer interested in economic investment in agriculture the Industrial Development Bank is now available.

Herein we shall not discuss long standing private and institutional credit arrangements such as banks, credit unions, mortgage, trust, and small loan companies, but shall review those new or changed public lending agencies that

operate to aid service Quebec agriculture.

The short term credit or loan market in a formal sense is in the hands of the chartered banks. However, charge accounts available at dealers and suppliers provide a substantial source of agriculture credit. Feed dealers, particularly, have become increasingly important credit sources for Quebec farmers. In some respects credit of this type offers the least restrictive source of funds for many farmers. The only difficulty is its very specific nature.

Short term bank credit, namely, 30, 60, and 90 day loans have not changed. However, on September 1, 1962 bank overdrafts became illegal in Canada. Therefore, the traditional bank overdraft now has to be formalized by a formal note. The table following summarizes, the pertinent facts concerning

Chart	
\$ 500. — 18 months	2,000. — 4 years
1,000. — 30 months	4,000. — 6 years
1,500. — 3 years	6,000. — 8 years
	7,500. — 10 years

## FARM IMPROVEMENT LOANS (FEDERAL)

Purpose	Class	Who May Borrow	Max. Amt. Of the Loan	Terms (max. 10 years)	Methods of Reimbursement	Securities Required
1) Purchase Agr. implements (including trucks)	A	Owner or tenant	$\frac{2}{3}$ and as much as 80% of cost — maximum \$7,500	30 mons. truck 48 mons. implements	Semi-annually or monthly	Lien, Art 88 "Bank Act" on implements purchased with the loan
2) Purchase mobile sprinkler and equipment for irrigation	B	Owner or tenant	75% of cost — maximum \$7,500	See chart above	At least annually	See Class A
Purchase livestock, incl. poultry.	C	Owner or tenant	75% of cost — maximum \$7,500	See chart above	At least annually	See Class A
Purchase or installation of Agr. equipment or farm electric system.	D	Owner	See C	See C	At least every 6 months	See Class A on Agr. equipment or electrical system. Mortgage on farm if loan exceeds \$2,000 and terms 5 years.
Alteration or improvement of farm electric system.	E	Owner	See C	See C	See D	See D
Erection or construction of fencing or drainage.	F	Owner	See C	See C	See C	See D
Construction, additions and repairs, farm bldg.	G	Owner	90% of cost maximum \$7,500	See C	See C	See D
Any work for improvement of the farm.	H	Owner	See C	See C	See C	See D

## QUEBEC FARM IMPROVEMENT LOAN (BILL 75)

Purchase of livestock including males and females of any age intended to form or improve a bovine, porcine or ovine herd for reproduction.	A	Owner or tenant	75% of cost max. \$3,000.	5 years max.	At least monthly, quarterly, 6 months or yearly.	Lien Art 88 "Bank Act" on the animals purchased with the loan.
Purchase of agr. implements and plant equipment.	B	See A		10 years max.	See A	See A
1) Any work for the improvement of the farm.	C	See A	90% of cost max. \$4,000.	See B	See A	To the discretion of the borrower
2) Purchase of electrical systems and drainage.		See A	75% of cost max. \$4,000.	See B	See A	See C
3) Improvement of soil.		See A	75% of cost max. \$4,000.	See B	See A	See C



## FARM CREDIT CORPORATION

Purpose	Who May Borrow	Max. Amt. of the Loan	Terms	Methods of Reimbursement
1) To acquire farm land and pay hypothecs	1) Farmer, principal, occupation farming.	a) standard loan 75% of appraised value of farm lands. Maximum \$20,000.	Not more than 30 years	a) Interest 5% — province pays rebate of interest 2½% on hypothec up to \$15,000.
2) To erect and modernize farm bldg. and pay debt incurred for this purpose.	2) Co-operative farm assoc. incorporated under legislation of any province. (see 1).	b) Package-deal loan 75% of value of real estate, basic herd livestock and farm equipment. Max. \$27,500.	Not more than 30 years	b) " "
3) Purchase basic herd livestock and pay debt incurred for the purpose.	3) Family farm corporation. Corporation owned by persons related, (see 1).			Securities
4) Purchase farm equipment and see 3.				a) 1st mortgage.
5) Provide lime, fertilizer and seed to establish permanent plantings.				b) 1st mortgage and pledges on livestock and equipment compulsory life insurance.
6) Discharge liabilities for any purposes, corp. consider necessary for organizing economic Farm unit.				

## QUEBEC FARM CREDIT BUREAU

1) To convert all mortgage debts.	1) FARMER — owner where he lives permanently and cultivation principal occupation.	1) 80% of appraised value of the farm. Max. \$15,000.	Interest
2) To pay all debts except those incurred for the purchase of an automobile.	2) Any person aged from 21-40 years, who acquires an economic farm for purposes of cultivation. Economic Farm — "One or more farms forming a single enterprise, revenue sufficient to support family, maintain soil productivity, and upkeep of buildings."	2) 90% of the value of the farm as appraised. Max. \$15,000.	1) 2½% per year over period of 29½ years. 5% after that. Borrowers have privilege of repaying at any time, in part or full.

short, intermediate, and long term credit arrangements.

Intermediate type loans are available through the chartered banks under three alternative arrangements, namely, the Farm Improvement Loans (Federal) Act and the Farm Improvement (Quebec Provincial) Act and through chartered banks and other institutions outside the improvement act. The federal act has gone through a number of amendments and at the present time almost any agricultural purpose other than the acquisition of real estate is a lawful purpose under the act. For most purposes an owner or a tenant may borrow up to 75 per cent of the cost of the item being financed, the maximum loan being \$7,500. The term of loan varies with the amount borrowed but in no case exceeds ten years. Repayment is flexible up to the limit of at least one payment annually. The security for the loan is usually the items purchased. However, a general chattel or real estate mortgage may be required.

The Quebec Farm Improvement Act is similar to the Federal Act. However, the purposes are a bit more restrictive. The maximum loan is \$7,000, \$3,000 of which may be for livestock and \$4,

000 for the improvement of land, buildings, or farm equipment. Repayment by the borrower may be on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis. The interest on such a loan shall not exceed a maximum fixed by government regulation. The government under this act agrees to repay an amount equal to the interest at three per cent on any loan exceeding \$4,000 taken for one or more of the purposes mentioned. The government office guarantees the lending agencies making such loans reimbursement for capital and interest losses up to ten per cent of the total amount of such loans.

In the long term credit field Quebec farmers have available to them the services of the (Federal) Farm Credit Corporation and the Quebec Farm Credit Bureau. The Farm Credit Corporation was established in 1959 as the successor of the Canadian Farm Loan Board. However, the Farm Credit Corporation was not very active in the lending field in Quebec until the provincial government under recent legislation agreed to apply the two and a half per cent rebate of interest on loans up to \$15,000 made by the Farm Credit Corporation in Quebec. The maximum loan under the FCC

is \$27,500; the rate of interest being 5 per cent with repayment amortized over a period of up to 30 years. The standard loan on a single farming enterprise may be obtained on the security of farm lands on an amount not exceeding 75 per cent of the appraised value or \$20,000 whichever is the lesser. A "package deal" loan on an amount not to exceed \$27,500 or 75 per cent of the value of real estate, basic land, livestock and farm equipment is also available. This latter "package deal" loan is designed to cover the long and intermediate term credit needs of farmers (particularly capable young farmers starting with limited capital). The above loans are available only to bona fide farmers.

The Industrial Development Bank also offers to agriculture the opportunity to finance and refinance farm enterprises that cannot be financed by private or other public credit agencies. The current interest rate is 6½ per cent; individual, partnership or corporate ownership groups may apply; repayment terms vary with the nature of the enterprise and its income and expenditure flow.





St. Hubert House, typical of the 1770's in every detail, served originally as a farmhouse for nearly 100 years.

## JACQUES DE CHAMBLY HISTORICAL VILLAGE



Furniture of the main houses is authentic, and was assembled from the best antique houses in the district.

**C**OME STEP INTO THE HISTORY of Canada thirty years or more before the period of Loyalist Upper Canada. The new Jacques de Chambly Village (Village Historique Jacques de Chambly) is situated about twenty miles south of Montreal in the heart of a valley rich in the historic lore of preceding centuries. Through this valley runs the Richelieu River which formed part of the strategic artery of communication

Reprinted from *Citizen*, Dec. 1962

to the south, in the days when travel followed the navigable waterways.

This historic village began to take shape a little over a year ago, through the efforts of a group of individuals who united to form a non-profit organization. Except for an initial grant from the provincial government, the enterprise has been privately supported thanks to the generosity of its members. Public interest is reflected in the increasing membership and in the active participation of the members.

Jacques de Chambly Historical Village is to be created from the authentic historic buildings found, for the most part, in the Richelieu Valley. About forty buildings are planned. The village has been open to the public since last summer, and judging by the large number of visitors who flocked in from all over, it is expected that the village will be a great tourist attraction. At present, three restored dwellings can be seen on the 110 acres of land set aside for the project. Seven or eight buildings will be added next spring. The community, when complete, will illustrate the agriculture, commerce, arts and crafts of early French Canada.

The most remarkable of the three dwellings is the St. Hubert House that

was moved from the village Square of St. Hubert. Threatened with destruction in its own village, the house was taken, stone by stone, to the site of Jacques de Chambly Village, through the endeavours of interested people and the grant from the Quebec Government. This beautiful stone house, typical of the 1770's in every detail, served originally as a farmhouse for nearly a hundred years. Then, until recent times, it was used as a school by many generations of children.

The Lareau house is another typical stone dwelling of the eighteenth century. The house and outbuildings still stand on their original site. The third dwelling, a hundred-year-old frame farmhouse, had stood neglected not far from the village. It was moved as a whole across the fields to its location in the village.

The furnishings of the two main houses were assembled from the best antique sources in the district. Not only the furniture is authentic, but also the numerous art objects, decorative, silverware, china, fabrics and the various small articles such as buckets made of dressed leather, candle moulds, old clocks, andirons and pot-hooks. The atmosphere created in the houses is exactly right for the period.

When it is completed, Jacques de Chambly Historical Village will depict the period from 1750 to 1830. Typical of the eighteenth century will be a mission with its school, a fur-trading post, a military camp with palisade, a windmill, a settler's cabin and finally, a wayside shrine. The seigniorial manor will stand alongside the most substantial eighteenth century dwellings of the community.

Ranged on either side of the narrow, winding streets, will be an inn, a tavern, a maple-sugar shanty, a sawmill, a convent and the dwellings of craftsmen, settlers, business people, the notary and others. It will be a complete village community.

The whole tradition of arts and crafts in Quebec will be revived. A few craftsmen, living in the village, will develop anew the traditional methods of handicraft. Through their creations, they will restore to us our fine artistic heritage, a link with the past that has been almost forgotten.

Plans are also being made for a settler's farm complete with livestock and equipment which will be cultivated exactly as was customary in the period.

Jacques de Chambly Village will be a truly living museum, a demonstration of the history of architecture, of applied arts and the customs of French Canada from the eighteenth to the early nineteenth century.



# SUGARING MAY BE OVER

BUT...



The Bombardier J5 with two 240-gallon tanks can collect at a rate of 500 gallons per hour.



The collecting crew of eight men work on snowshoes with four gallon collecting pails.



Each storage tank has its own valve for rapid unloading.

**H**ERE ARE SOME IDEAS you might try next year. Mr. Rolland Boudreau of Ascot Corners near Sherbrooke has a very efficient operation involving the use of a Bombardier J5 vehicle with two 240-gallon tanks constructed over each track. This machine can collect sap at a rate of approximately 500 gallons an hour with a collecting crew of eight men, each man using roughly ten 4-gallon collecting pails. This enables the men to continue the work of collecting sap in the sugar bush while the Bombardier returns to the sugar house to dump its 480-gallon sap load. As each of the 4-gallon pails is filled these are left by the roadside for the Bombardier to pick up on its return from the sugar house, (dumping by gravity from each tank). As the sap is dumped into the collecting vehicle, the empty pails are loaded aboard and transported to new collecting areas.

Mr. Boudreau hangs 12,000 buckets in his sugar bush so that he requires this modern collecting equipment and efficient use of labour to collect from this number of buckets in two days. The collecting crew works on snowshoes and the entire bush was tapped this way. The Bombardier is a very flexible machine designed to operate in rough country and deep snow.

This operation is quite unique in that maple syrup is Mr. Boudreau's only crop, together with sugar parties and the sale of syrup and candy at his roadside stand. Mr. Boudreau processes his sap on an evaporator set up over 6 oil burners and can produce a very good quality syrup with the fine heating control obtained using oil. Much of his boiling is done at night and he can finish over 100 gallons of syrup a day, using this oil-fired evaporator. His sap storage tanks are also located in the sugar house capacity approximately 4,000 gallons.

## 8 SPINNING LURES



**\$2.98 —** VALUE \$5.00

A season's fishing tackle for only **\$2.98**  
Assortment of 3 sizes for all game fish.

All new precision quality Canadian hand-made spinning lures, at a special introductory offer — a \$5.00 value for only \$2.98.

Highly polished chrome-finished blade flickers about a lustrous pearl beaded shaft. Tiny fluorescent bead and red skirt provide extra attraction. Super-sharp treble hook guarantees landed fish.

Eight of these exciting new Canada-made lures in a range of three sizes for all game fish from trout, bass, pickerel and pike to musky.

Yours for only \$2.98 during this special introductory offer. Supply is limited. Immediate delivery.

**FISHING UNLIMITED,  
Box 100, Carter Bldg.,  
Beaurepaire, P.Q.**

Please rush me ( ) sets of spinning lures. I enclose cash, cheque, money order, in the amount of **\$2.98** for each set, Total ..... Please add 6% sales tax if you reside in P.Q.

Name .....

Address ..... Prov. ....



**T**HE SNOWSHOE HARE severed family ties on the twenty-fourth day of his life. He did so with a degree of equanimity, without further thought of the mother who had fed him diligently in the bed of dried grass she had lined with fur from her breast so that he would be snug and warm. All that was behind him now, for as he hopped on already long legs he became aware of far greater issues.

It did not take the snowshoe long to cultivate adult habits. The extraordinary duplication of his upper incisors enabled him to

## THE UNFORTUNATE ONE

by HARRY P. McKEEVER

chop a variety of herbaceous things with amazing speed. He masticated clovers and grasses with similar efficiency and many a time, a certain yearning upon him, scraped away the soil and dug belly-deep for the minerals there. Always he chose a shaded place to rest during the day. For this he liked the thick growth of briar and fern, though never too far from direct sunlight lest he should wish to indulge in a brief spell of that delicious warmth. With the first long shadows, however, he was astir.

Because he was at heart a creature of merry-making, he frequently kept rendez-vous under the full moon with a batch of contemporaries to scamper and gambol until the need for food sent them farther afield. He learned to drum out alarm with his two front feet and likewise scuttled to the shelter of underbrush when one of his kind gave the signal. Between times he dressed his fur daily, never tolerating a speck on the shimmering surface. So far, and because such a strategy was inherent, the snowshoe had not once strayed beyond sight of his home run.

From reddish-brown, the hare turned white as fall became winter. His new coat was thick, impervious to storm, whilst on his feet intense growth of fibre-like material allowed him to make haste on the snowdrifts that patterned his homeland from end to end. Only the most savage blizzard caused him to lie low, frequently for days without food. Such incidents left him perceptibly lighter and slightly less sharp-witted. Necessity also bid him be content with dead grass and even the distasteful pungence of tamarac and birch and poplar and willow bark. When he could get them, he consumed quantities of spruce and cedar leaves.

By this time the snowshoe had become extremely agile. Clearing 10 feet with one bound,

four to the second, and turning in a radius little more than his own length were his only weapons against multiple enemies. He could awaken and gain full speed in an instant, and also had grasped the secret of darting through three-inch openings to evade an attacker. In times of crises, and when there was no alternative, he readily plunged into rivers rather than relinquish his right to the good earth. That apart, water never touched his mouth.

These attributes and manifestations of courage were vital to the hare. Instinct warned he could be flushed by one fox, to run into the teeth of the accomplice waiting beyond the copse. The lynx, with dreadful patience, could pounce and tear him asunder. Against the combined intellect of a wolf family he would be no match. Similarly, wolverine, bear, coyote and badger would show him no mercy, any more than either hawk or owl would during dawn-to-dawn vigils overhead. But however deadly these were, none could compare with the weasel. The weasel was a scourge, to be held in terror both for his inexorable approach and for the agonies of the slow death the hare knew must follow if he were apprehended. Before the winter had passed the snowshoe believed he was friendless.

Spring moult restored the hare's summer pelage. He mated in March, became a father a month later, and settled down to the added responsibilities the ritual had wrought. Not expected to provide for his fast-growing offsprings, he nevertheless lingered near the den, here to do battle with a covetous female or wayward male. He understood the terms of the match, abided by the rules, and was unperturbed when, precisely as he has done one evening in May, his family of four disappeared at their own behest for ever.

Such was his fecundity, there came a time when the snowshoe and his great numbers were hard-pressed for food. Bacteria multiplied in the huge piles of voidings in the dens and precincts so that in no time contemporaries were reduced to vanishing-point by the plague whose ruthless path was cut wherever they laid foot. Those that survived the cycle remained too impoverished to provide for themselves and so became easy prey to marauding enemy or reservoir for the blood-sucking wood ticks that fed lavishly on the precious life-flow. They dug into the flesh, drove the host insane, but stopped absolute penetration when faced with the barrier of evil-tasting protective wax inside the ears. Only when the victim had been transformed to a cold corpse did the ticks forage their hold and scurry off to secure another source of feasting.

So it was his hazardous and drama-packed life bore down heavily on the hare. Suspense had taken toll of his nervous energy until, when he was four summers old, his vigor had dwindled and he hardly moved among the youngster members.

The snowshoe asked little from life now. In fact, one fair meal would do if only he might somehow generate enough strength to rise and search for it.



## CLEANING MILKING MACHINES

No sanitary precaution contributes more to a low bacteria count in milk than does keeping the milking machine clean, asserts Dr. C. K. Johns of the CDA Dairy Technology Institute at Ottawa.

Milk residues in the fine cracks of the rubberware, especially in the teat cup liners, promote the growth of billions of bacteria. Since rubberware cracks as it deteriorates, it is advisable to replace the liners after about 750 milkings — that is 50 milkings of a herd of 15 cows.

It is more economical to have two sets of liners in use than one. If each set is used one week and then rested one week in a five per cent lye solution, it will last half as long again as a set in constant use.

There are several pointers to keeping the milker clean:

— Just before use, suck a pailful of recommended sanitizing (germ-killer) solution through each unit; use this solution to treat cans, strainers, etc., and then wash the cow's udders;

— Right after milking, suck a pailful of clean cold water through each unit, — Brush the liners in a hot solution of a reliable dairy cleaner, and then fill them with lye solution (two teaspoonfuls per gallon of soft water); — Brush the pail and pailhead in hot cleaning solution, rinse them in clean water and invert them on a metal rack to drain and dry.

Further details are given in Supplement to Publication 627, "How to Care for Milking Machines and Rubberware", a copy of which can be obtained from the Information Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

## GETTING BETTER HOG GRADES

Here's a tip on how to obtain better hog grades and at the same time cut housing costs: Use an open-front barn for your pigs.

The only snag is that more feed is required for these air types in the colder weather.

R. J. Curtis of the CDA's research station at Fredericton says pigs readily adapt themselves to sharp temperature changes. In one test the thermometer showed — 28°F inside the barn the outside temperature being — 37°F.

There's obviously no ventilation problem in the open-front housing. Cleaning labor can be reduced by sloping the concrete floor to a gutter wide enough to take a front-end tractor loader.

Pigs from such a barn grade better winter and summer, than comparable pigs kept in conventional housing, reports Mr. Curtis. In winter 78 per cent of the open-front barn pigs graded A compared with 63 per cent from the standard piggery.

Mr. Curtis said Yorkshire feeder pigs average 1.53 pounds daily gain on 3.86 pounds of feed per pound of gain in three trials conducted in an open-front barn in winter. This compared with 1.59 pounds of gain on 3.55 pounds of feed by pigs from the same litters in conventional housing. The pigs were about the same weight at the beginning of the experiment and were self-fed in groups of up to 30 hogs per cent.

Tests between May and September showed that rates of gain and feed under both housing systems were similar in summer, but carcass quality of the open housed pigs remained higher.



Mrs. Reinink examines the difference Gillett's Lye makes: drinking fountains come sparkling clean and germ free.

## NO ROOM FOR RISKS IN THE POULTRY HOUSE!

### THAT'S WHY THE REININKS USE GILLETT'S LYE EXTENSIVELY

Mr. and Mrs. Hank Reinink of Moscow, Ontario, are staking their livelihood on a 4,500-bird laying business. They simply can't afford mismanagement practices, or risky sanitation methods. That is why The Reininks use Gillett's Lye as an all-round cleanser and sanitizer.

"We use Gillett's Lye in every phase of our poultry operation," says Mr. Reinink, "from disinfecting baby chick drinking fountains, to spraying roosts for layers."

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**FREE BOOKLET!** Prepared by a Canadian bacteriologist, this helpful, 60-page booklet not only gives full details on poultry sanitation, but every other phase of farming as well. To get your free copy write: Standard Brands Limited, 550 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal

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PLANNING TO BUY A FARM ?  
PLAN RIGHT  
FROM THE BEGINNING



**H**OW MANY PEOPLE realize the work that has gone into putting food on your plate. Yet many people will take a look at that steak, think of how much it cost them and then say farmers sure must be making a rake off. Over the past few years I have received many requests from persons wishing to buy a farm. Different reasons are given for wanting a farm. Some would like to have a place for a few hens while others wish to farm as a living. No matter what the reason for buying a farm one must look at it first and foremost as a way of life.

I have attempted here to raise a few questions. No doubt anyone who is interested in farming will find many more. If this is so, the article has then fulfilled its purpose. Farming is not something to be undertaken with your eyes closed. Planning is the keyword from the very beginning.

**First things first**

A person should not just go out and buy a farm then decide what is to be done with it. It should be planned well from the beginning. A person buying a farm is going to run into enough unexpected troubles without asking for them. One must find out all he can about agriculture and farming. A point here is not to write the Agricultural college or the Government Information Service for information on "Agriculture". I have often received requests of this kind and have felt like writing back that it was impossible to send the library. If you are writing for information try to be specific. Buying and settling on a farm takes time. Time well

## TO TALK OF MANY THINGS

by John Elliott

spent in the planning will avoid many headaches and dollars.

To find out about farming, travelling around the county is a good idea. Keep a record of the different areas and describe it as you see it. Try to follow up your travelling with stops to speak to farmers. You can learn a great deal this way. Some farmers are taking in boarders and this is a good way of becoming acquainted with farm life. To spend several weeks or a summer on a farm may make you or break you on going ahead with your farming idea.

Some persons were brought up on a farm but left to work in the city. At some stage they wish to go back, but sometimes forget that things have changed in 20 years. The people for instance in the old community have changed, the roads, markets and soil conditions, all these factors may be forgotten and be remembered as it used to be. Yet these are factors when considering farming.

Another good source of information is the county extension worker. In Quebec he is called the agronome, in other provinces the agricultural representative.

You can find his name and address from farmers in the county or by writ-

ing to one of the addresses listed with this article.

One must realize that to be a successful farmer is not easy. A farmer is an employer, labourer, salesman, banker, manager, businessman. In other words before embarking on a career of farming make many inquiries and talk to many persons until you are blue in the face.

The problems facing agriculture today are great and complex. Anyone contemplating farming should become aware of these problems. I would recommend subscribing to farm magazines, keeping an eye open on the daily newspaper, and other media such as radio and television. The thing is to learn all you can and not be in a hurry.

**What kind of Farming**

Farming has many kinds to choose from. The types of farming will depend on area, markets, soil, topography, climate. Fruit growing, vegetable gardening, dairy, beef, sheep, pigs, poultry, cash crops are just a few. There is also a wide variation within these. In addition to these, fur-bearing animals, to growing mushrooms can be considered as types of farming. Combinations of any of these are also common.



I was asked one time by a prospective farmer that if he bought a farm and put beef cattle on it could he make money. I gave no answer simply because an answer was impossible. I knew nothing about the farm itself and just how he intended raising beef or nothing of his managerial skills. Several avenues of approach can be followed here. A purebred herd to sell high quality cattle or a commercial herd where the interest is to sell quantity. In beef, other approaches can be used as raising feeder cattle, or finishing the steers produced by the breeding herd or selling the calves at weaning time and not finishing any. This is the type of thing a prospective farmer must look at when choosing a type of farm. It is also difficult because in this case he may start with a definite plan but has to change in time due to prices, markets etc. In other words he must take an overall view of the situation and plan not for the present but for the future. Another example that I am familiar with is a person going into dairy then finds out he has no milk contract.

Try to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of each. The availability and cost of labour are important points in determining the kind of farming.

#### Where to Buy

The type of farming you wish to do will influence largely the area where you buy a farm. Markets are another big factor. A person may drive around the countryside and see many farms for sale. Don't let this mislead you in thinking you can buy any place at all. As mentioned before the type of farming, soil, topography are all influencing factors.

Social considerations are also very important when choosing an area. If you have children you must look into the matter of schools. If you are English speaking and settle in a predominantly French area schools may not be available unless you travel a considerable distance. Churches and social centres are other factors and not always fully developed within a community. Hospitals may be short distance away from the city particularly when located on good roads. On the other hand they may be several hours away when in remote places.

#### Choosing a Farm

The first question asked is how much. When speaking about costs the land and buildings should be included in the total cost. Farms are not sold so much for the land and so much for the building. If the farm is being sold with livestock and machinery included then a complete inventory should be taken. Depreciation should be figured for buildings and machinery. The thing is to take your time, it's your money".

Another question is the farm the right size to fit your needs? Is the soil productive enough for your needs? Soil may differ from one field to another and soil types in the Province of Quebec number several hundreds with some very good and others very poor, and this is not a factor restricted to one province. Are some of the fields so undermanaged that brush has started to grow back? If the farm has a woodlot, what management has been carried on and has it been slashed cut? Water supply for the house, barns and fields are most important. This is a commodity nobody can do without so make sure water will be plentiful the year round. Fences are important and if you have to spend a lot of money to replace, it can run into plenty. Drainage is something we often forget. If the farm has surface and under drainage then it's to your favour. A good time to see how well a farm is drained is in the spring. Poor drainage may mean a delay of several weeks in the spring before you can get on your land. Drainage will also be a big factor as to the types of crops you can grow.

#### Financing

Farming is to-day an expensive proposition. It takes money to start and to keep it going. From the beginning you can't afford to make too many mistakes, particularly the ones that are costing money. Consider the amount you have on hand and the amount you can borrow. Consider also the money that will be required to make any necessary changes on the farm you will buy. If you have proceeded carefully to this point any changes should not involve great outlays of capital.

Credit should be used but used wisely. Once you are farming your capital needs will grow with the years. Sources of credit are banks, Farm Credit Corporation, Quebec Farm Credit Bureau, merchants and dealers, private loans.

If at this point you are still not sure but, are still determined to farm you could look into the possibilities of renting a farm. This cuts down many of the risks involved. Be like a good carpenter — measure twice and cut once.

#### Sources of Information

Information Service,  
Quebec Department of Agriculture,  
Quebec, P.Q.  
Quebec Farm Credit Bureau,  
Parliament Buildings,  
Quebec, P.Q.  
Farm Credit Corporation,  
24A Palais Montcalm,  
Quebec, P.Q.  
Information Service,  
Canada Department of Agriculture,  
W. K. Neatby Building,  
Ottawa, Ont.

A.R.C. Jones, Professor of Woodlot Management. Macdonald College.

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Compiled by T. Pickup of the Information and Research Service,  
Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization.

## AGRICULTURAL MERIT COMPETITION, 1963

### *This month in the* **FAMILY FARM** *Section*

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Agricultural merit competition,  
1963

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It pays to shear sheep properly

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The care of foals

The Quebec Agricultural Merit Competition will be held this year in the fourth region, comprising the following counties:

Berthier	Montcalm
Champlain	Montmorency
Gatineau	Papineau
Hull	Pontiac
Joliette	Portneuf
Labelle	Quebec
Laviolette	St-Maurice
Maskinongé	Trois-Rivières

Any genuine farmer in any of these counties, who has operated a mixed farm of at least 60 acres during the past five years or longer, may take part in the contest. A special invitation is extended to former competitors who have already won a title other than that of Commander of the Order of Agricultural Merit, and also to farmers who have successfully participated in a farm improvement contest.

The Minister of Agriculture and Colonization, Mr. Courcy, wishes to draw attention to the fact that the rules of the competition were revised last year and are now better suited to existing conditions, especially as regards admission of competitors. The value of the prizes has also been increased.

Anyone wishing to take part in the Agricultural Merit Competition in 1963 is asked to get in touch with his agronome as soon as possible. The closing date for entries is the 15th of June.

### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COLONIZATION QUEBEC

#### NOTICE TO AGRONOMES AND VETERINARIANS concerning

#### Payment of Compensation to Owners of Animals dying of Rabies

By virtue of Departmental Order number 531 of the Executive Council of Quebec, it has been ordained that, beginning on the first of April 1963, compensation will be paid by the Department of Agriculture and Colonization to every owner of a farm animal which dies of rabies. This applies to cattle, horses, sheep, pigs and goats.

The aforesaid compensation will be paid to farmers of the Province of Quebec on the following conditions:

1. Any veterinary doctor, having reason to believe that an animal of one of the above-mentioned kinds shows symptoms of rabies must immediately inform the sub-district veterinary inspector of the Department of Agriculture of Canada.
2. The said sub-district veterinary inspector is responsible for having the diagnosis confirmed by laboratory analyses and for setting a value on the rabid animal in accordance with the following scale of **maximum** values:
  - a) for a bovine animal, two hundred and fifty dollars;
  - b) for a horse, one hundred dollars;
  - c) for a sheep, forty dollars;
  - d) for a pig, forty dollars;
  - e) for a goat, forty dollars.
3. It is understood that no compensation will be paid unless the Minister of Agriculture and Colonization has received a certificate, in duplicate, signed by the federal inspector, certifying that the animal in question died from rabies and setting a value on it not in excess of the above amounts.

We rely on veterinarians to make it their duty to conform to these directions and, in regions where there is no practising veterinarian, we ask agronomes to cooperate by notifying the sub-district veterinary inspector whenever they have



reason to believe that an animal of the aforesaid kinds in the area under their jurisdiction is infected with rabies.

We also ask agronomes to encourage owners of animals to call upon the services of their veterinary practitioner if they have reason to believe that any of their livestock may be suffering from rabies.

Yours sincerely,

Ernest Mercier,

Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Colonization.

## PESTICIDES CAN BE DANGEROUS POISONS



A field of cucumbers in Richelieu County is sprayed with Captan and Malathion. In the future we may consider such methods crude and "unnatural". In the meantime, precautions that will help to minimize harm to useful insects and to the operator are: correct dosage and timing of application; up to date information about pesticides; and spraying only on calm days.

By

Jacques Simard, agronome\*

Is the use of pesticides the best method at our disposal for combatting the enemies of our crops? "Silent Spring", the most recent of Rachel Carson's books to be published, prompts some wholesome thoughts on this question. I therefore submit a few comments on the author and her work, in order to draw the attention of agronomes and specialists concerned with the development of our natural resources to the often improper and excessive use of the poisonous substances.

### The author

Rachel Carson, a writer whose biological work and publications have at-

tracted favourable attention, won international renown with the publication of her book "The Sea around us" in 1951. This book, describing marine animal life, has been translated into thirty languages and established a scientific and literary career begun at Johns Hopkins University and continued for sixteen years in the Game and Fisheries Service of the United States.

Since 1958, Dr. Carson has accumulated many personal observations and assembled the results of researches which have been conducted throughout the world concerning the toxic effects of pesticides, especially synthetic insecticides of the organophosphate group and the chlorinated hydrocarbons. The results of these inquiries have been incorporated in "Silent Spring".

### The Book

After dramatic account of the poisonousness of several synthetic insecti-

cides and a description of a number of cases of poisoning caused by pesticides, a few chapters of "Silent Spring" are devoted to a forthright description of the dangers to which the biological species surrounding us are exposed. Spring, the season when nature re-awakens, and traditionally associated with the song of birds, has been growing more and more silent year by year, not only in our fields and forests, but even in our towns, as a result, says the author, of the application of the massive doses of insecticides used to destroy harmful pests. Unfortunately, lack of adequate biological knowledge on the instigators of these eradication campaigns has destroyed the natural biological equilibrium and poisoned, beyond recall, several species of birds. Other species are threatened to the extent that the appearance of some new insecticide may prove their death-blow. The same applies to the fish and other creatures of our lakes and rivers and also, in many cases, to the animals that live in the woods and in the soil, not to mention the many cases of poisoning of domesticated species (including bees).

A typical example of the upsetting of biological balance owing to the use of pesticides is given by scientists of the University of Michigan: repeated applications of DDT for the control of the insect carriers of Dutch elm disease have caused the disappearance of robins and other species of birds in several states where spraying has been carried out systematically. The explanation was given in 1958 by Dr. Barker of the Institute of Natural History at Urbana, Illinois. Strong doses of DDT are deposited on the leaves and bark of the trees. In autumn the leaves fall to the ground, where rain and especially earthworms hasten their decay. The worms, gluttons for elm leaves, are slowly poisoned by the pesticides and, being the chief source of food of robins, prevent the birds which eat them from reproducing normally, as a result of the effect of accumulations of toxic residues in their bodies. The author adds interesting statistics about the comparative merits of insecticide sprays and sanitary measures for the control of Dutch elm disease.

In many cases, the treatment of insects with insecticides results in the emergence of resistant strains. As examples of this process may be mentioned the appearance of resistance in house flies, mosquitoes, and vegetable root maggots. There seems therefore to be some justification for doubt about the future of chemical products for the control of new resistant strains. Some of the organo-phosphates now being

\* Jacques Simard, B.S.A. (Montreal 1950), M.Sc. (McGill 1954) is a plant pathologist with the Information and Research Service (Montreal office) of the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization.

(Continued on page 18)



# WISE CHOICE OF STARTED PULLETS

Most of the "started" pullets that are sold nowadays in Quebec are of good quality, and those who buy them are satisfied with them. It sometimes happens, however, that the birds prove less satisfactory and, in such cases, it would have been a good thing if the purchaser had a written undertaking guaranteeing the quality of the pullets and specifying the conditions of sale. Mr. Bernard Chagnon, of the Quebec Department of Colonization, lists some of the points which should be clearly defined in a contract of this kind between the breeder and the buyer:

1. that the buyer be entitled to know the quality of the strain of birds in question and the place where they are being kept, so that he may see them before they are shipped to him;
2. that a certificate from a veterinarian be produced indicating quite clearly what preventive and curative treatments the birds have been subjected to during the rearing period (e.g. against diseases of the respiratory tract, coccidiosis, and worms);
3. that the birds beaks be trimmed at least 10 to fifteen days before delivery, unless an outbreak of cannibalism has made it necessary to trim them earlier;
4. that pullets reared in confinement shall be given adequate floor space and free access to drinking fountains and feed hoppers;

5. that the design of the brooder house and equipment shall be such as to meet the demands imposed by our climate;
6. that the pullets be culled at shipping time and that shipping charges be paid by the seller;
7. that the rearer of the birds shall heat his poultry house, if necessary before the chicks arrive, and never allow them to come into contact with other poultry kept on the premises.

There is at present a market for started pullets. The further expansion of this market will depend on the extent to which cooperation between the rearer and the buyer continues to ensure their mutual satisfaction and profit.



Sheep belonging to Mr. Oliver Watt among the hills at Port Daniel West, in the County of Bonaventure.

## IT PAYS TO SHEAR SHEEP PROPERLY

In most districts of Quebec where sheep are reared, the end of April brings not only the end of the lambing season, but also time for shearing. By then, the weather is warm enough to make this task easier and more agreeable for the shearer, and also to render the shorn animals less likely to catch a chill.

Shearing calls for a certain amount of experience, because the sheep must

be handled with consideration during the operation and care must be taken not to injure them. Apart from this, careful and proper shearing, carried out in such a way that the wool can be graded, will enable the farmer to obtain the best possible price for his fleeces.

The Department of Agriculture of Canada, will make a deficiency payment of 20 to 25 cents a pound on clean,

properly packed fleeces. Sheep rearers who wish to take advantage of this subsidy should therefore give special attention to the following points, noted by Mr. Marcel Tremblay of the Department of Agriculture and Colonization.

1. Never shear sheep when their wool is wet. For a few days prior to shearing, they should be kept under cover whenever it is raining;
2. Do not wash wool. You will not increase the value of the fleece in any way by doing so;
3. The shearing should be done on a clean floor, free from litter, straw, or dust. This is a very important point: if it is neglected, dirt and other foreign matter will get into the wool. Failing a clean floor, the work can be done on a large sheet of canvas spread on the ground;
4. When shearing a sheep, try to keep the fleece intact, and remember that wool which is not cut at the first stroke of the clippers or shears (i.e. the "second cuts") has very little commercial value;

5. When the intact fleece has been removed from the animal, it is placed on the floor with its shorn (or flesh) side down. Dark-coloured wool from the face and legs is set aside to be packed separately. Dung locks and tags must also be removed and packed separately. The wool from a single fleece, thus separated, can be more

(Continued on page 18)

**This page supplied in the interests of the Family Farm by the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization.**



This splendid team of Clydesdales is from the farm of Miss Ellin Beit Speyer of West Hatley, Stanstead.



If one stops to consider the present state of horse breeding on the one hand and, on the other, the undeniable usefulness of that animated source of power on the farm, it soon becomes evident that there is still too large a proportion of our annual crop of foals that either do not survive or else never attain the size and value expected of them at maturity. Mr. J. A. Guimont of the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization is convinced that these losses and failures are mainly due to neglect of the necessary precautions during the gestation period and at foaling, or to a diet unsuited to the requirements of the animal in question, or to a lack of the right kind of care at the right time.

In this connection, it is believed that the following recommendations, faithfully carried out, may help to reduce such losses appreciably and, at the same time, serve as a guide to the improved rearing of foals and assist our farmers to produce horses that will be better suited to the demands of our present market.

It is assumed that the pregnant mare herself will have been given all the care that her condition requires and that the gestation period has been passed normally.

*From birth to weaning.* a few days before she is due to foal, the mare (with hind feet unshod) should be placed in a roomy stall which has been well disinfected beforehand as a preventive measure against navel ill, and plentifully provided with clean, thoroughly dry litter. Having been thus installed, the mare should not be disturbed unnecessarily, but her behaviour should be discreetly watched so that one can intervene at the right time if necessary.

## THE CARE OF FOALS

Shortly before giving birth the mare will become restless and agitated, repeatedly lying down and rising again, biting her sides, whisking her tail, and sweating from her flanks. Then she will lie stretched out on her side and make efforts. Sometimes, however, a mare remains standing all through the process of parturition. The actual birth normally takes only ten to fifteen minutes, but if it is unduly prolonged and complications seem to be imminent, the services of a veterinarian should be obtained without delay.

It may happen that the foal is born covered in the foetal envelopes (after-birth); if so, its nostrils should be quickly cleared, and breathing stimulated by means of brisk rubbing of its sides, its tongue having first been pulled forward. The wet straw and the afterbirth must be removed from the stall as soon as possible. As a rule, the afterbirth is shed during the fifteen to twenty minutes following parturition. If the placenta is retained, it would be wise to call the veterinarian, as infection may ensue.

It is important for the young foal to drink its mother's first milk because this acts as a natural purgative which is needed to clear out the intestines of the newly born animal as soon as possible. If the colostrum does not produce the desired effect, give the foal one ounce of castor oil in a little of its mother's milk every two hours until the treatment takes effect. An enema of

lukewarm, soapy water may also be given, and repeated after six hours, if necessary.

If the mare has too much milk, some of it should be drawn from her by hand, so that the foal will not run the risk of getting diarrhoea. The umbilical cord breaks by itself, but, if it becomes necessary to intervene, it should be ligatured at least an inch from the foal's abdominal wall and then severed with sterilized scissors just below the ligature. Following this, it should be daubed with fresh tincture of iodine or a ten per cent solution of potassium permanganate; a few hours later, the ligature should be removed and more disinfectant applied.

The suckling period ordinarily lasts for four to six months. It goes without saying that the mare's milk is the best food for a young foal. Hence, whenever circumstances permit, it is definitely advisable to prolong the suckling period as long as possible, so as to get the foal off to a good start in life. However, the young animal should also be accustomed, as early as possible, to eating grain, hay, and grass. If this is done, the normal growth of the foal will suffer only a very slight setback when solid food is substituted for the mare's milk at weaning time.

*Weaning:* There are different ways of weaning a foal, each with its advantages and disadvantages. On the whole, however, the so-called "gradual method" seems the most practical, and it is the

(Continued on next page)





Mme. F. Chouinard and her daughter, Françoise, spinning wool obtained from their own sheep, at St-Jean Port Joli.

readily graded by the manufacturer. The fleece, after having been rid in this way of its poorer parts, is ready to be tied.

6. One side of the fleece, about a third of the width of the fleece in breadth, is folded in, and the other side is folded in on top of it. The fleece is then firmly rolled up from rump to shoulder, so that the best grade of wool is on the outside, and tied securely with paper twine. Never use binder twine or similar fibrous string for tying.

The fleeces are then packed in special sacks for shipping. If the farmer wishes to sell his wool through the Canadian Wool Growers Association at Lennoxville, he can obtain such sacks from that organization free of charge. Several fleeces may be put into each sack.

In order to obtain the compensation payment paid on lots of wool weighing not less than twenty pounds, the producer must deliver his wool to buyers or to approved warehouses provided with a permit issued by the Canada Department of Agriculture.

**This page supplied in the interests of the Family Farm by the Quebec Department of Agriculture and Colonization.**

## PESTICIDES

(Continued)

used to control insects are already starting to give disappointing results.

Biological methods of control may offer a more rational means of combatting resistant strains. Rachel Carson gives a brilliant account of such methods and their possibilities as an offensive weapon in the struggle against agricultural pests. Most of the research which has been undertaken in this connection

is still in the experimental stage, but encouraging results have already been obtained with insect predators, bred and released on a big enough scale to control pests, with virus-insecticides and bacteria, and with sterilized male insects released in sufficiently large numbers to virtually annihilate their species locally by precluding normal fertile matings.

The last two chapters of "Silent Spring" are very interesting. The first describes the effects of certain pesticides on the genetic material of the cell, effects which are comparable in all respects to those caused by atomic radiation: the second describes their more dramatic and more immediately dangerous carcinogenic effects. Researches carried out with animals indicate that five or six pesticides in particular can give rise to cancer. The number is greater if those that give rise to leukemia are included. This discovery alone should be enough to cause even the most enthusiastic advocate of pesticides to consider the consequences of their indiscriminate use as a remedy for every problem caused by insects and other organisms that harm crops.

## Conclusions

Although, in the opinion of some people, the subject matter is presented in a somewhat extravagant manner, the fact remains that Rachel Carson bases her statements on the results of serious research and experiment. The author desires chiefly to draw attention to the often excessive use of insecticides in agriculture. In 1960, over 600,000,000 pounds of synthetic insecticides were produced, as compared with 259,000 pounds in 1947. Could not some of the companies which produce pesticides on a very large scale devote a small part of their budgets to a search for remedies that may be more enduring and less fraught with harmful consequences for humanity as a whole?

Some investigations now being made in Quebec, concerning the synchronization of fungicide applications, afford grounds for hoping for a less massive and more discriminating use of fungicides based on a more thorough knowledge of the biology of plant diseases and the factors that affect the development of epidemics. Similar work is being carried out in connection with the control of certain insects. The results of these investigations, based on biological considerations, permit adequate control with a minimum of pesticide application.

Another way of reducing the dangers connected with the use of pesticides would be to enforce the regulations con-

cerning the maximum legal tolerances for toxic residues on agricultural produce by every possible means. Similarly, government should devise stricter legislation regulating the use of pesticides. In this way, the lives of consumers and the biological balance of nature would be protected. In closing, I hope that these few comments will plant a doubt in the minds of those who believe that the use of pesticides is the best and only method of combatting the enemies of our crops.

(Translation of a review entitled "Les pesticides sont des poisons dangereux" which appeared in "Agriculture" (Montreal) Vol. XX, No. 1.)

## CARE OF FOALS

(Continued)

one most commonly used. The procedure is as follows: when the foal has been separated from its mother, it is brought to her three times a day to suck. On the third day, the number of these visits is reduced to two, and so until the mare is practically dry. Care should be taken beforehand to cut down on the amount of concentrates the mare has been accustomed to receive since she started feeding the foal.

*First and second winters:* It is important to feed the foal plentifully during the first years of its life so as to promote normal growth. In fact, the rapid development of the young animal calls for rich and abundant nourishment at all times, provided of course that it is able to take regular exercise. (As far as possible, a foal should be at liberty all year round). However, care should be taken to prevent the attacks of indigestion that are always possible and quite often disastrous.

Crushed oats and mixed hay of the best quality are highly desirable for the growing foal, since they contain the elements necessary for the formation of firm bone and strong muscle. As a supplement to the grain ration, give the foal two or three pounds of carrots a day, see that it always has access to salt, and take care to add minerals to the concentrate mixture. Linseed meal makes a helpful addition to the foal's rations: fed at the rate of about half a pound a day, it aids the digestion of other feedstuffs, promotes the replacement of the hair and makes the coat shine.

Finally, the colt should constantly be provided with clean, dry litter. A watch should be kept for possible parasites (such as line and intestinal worms, etc.) and attention should be paid to the proper care of the hooves, because a good stance undoubtedly adds to the well-being and the useful life of a horse.





# The Better Impulse

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE  
WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF QUEBEC



## The Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act

ESTELLE A. COATES  
Provincial Convenor of Agriculture, Q.W.I.

We are hearing more and more about ARDA these days and will be hearing still more in the months and years ahead. The letters ARDA stand for Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act. This Act was passed by the Parliament of Canada in the first half of 1961. The Act is very short. The best brief description of what ARDA is all about is contained in the long title to the Act. This long title reads "An Act to provide for the rehabilitation of agricultural land and the development of rural areas in Canada".

As far as the Federal Government is concerned the Act provides that it can do three things. 1. It can enter into agreements with the provinces to pay part of the cost of projects that are carried out by the provinces. 2 It can enter into agreements with provinces to not only share in the cost of programs but to share in the actual carrying-out of these programs . . . that is to share in actually doing the job. 3. It can do research or co-operate with the provinces in doing research, and pay part or all of the cost of such research. The point of the research is, of course, that much of it will be needed in order to carry out the actual projects under the Act. It can be seen from this that except for doing research, the Federal Government under ARDA can do nothing except in agreement with the provinces. Unless therefore there is provincial initiative nothing will be done. This is very important.

Why has this Act been passed? The reasons are very briefly explained in the preamble to the Act. The preamble first states that technological change is making adjustment necessary in farming in order to maintain or raise the standard of living of farm people. So the first key word is adjustment, which is another way of saying that changes must take place in agriculture and in rural areas or farmers will be faced with declining incomes over the years ahead.

The Act then says that all Canadians, and especially Canadians engaged in agriculture can benefit if projects are undertaken. Three types of project are mentioned. First, projects to provide for alternative uses of agricultural lands that are marginal or of low productivity. So the first object of the Act is to arrange for and assist in putting into

new and better uses land that contributes very little to the incomes and standards of living of the people on it, or to the wealth of the country as a whole. Second, projects for the development of new opportunities for increased income and employment in rural areas.

This is the "rural development" section and a great deal is going to be heard of these words. You will note that while these projects are supposed to be for rural *agricultural* areas, the new opportunities for increase income and employment do not necessarily have to be opportunities for increased agricultural income and agricultural employment only. You will say that this type of project could cover a great many different things, and you would be right. It is the very wide scope of this "rural development" provision that makes it so exciting and yet makes it so hard to say just what the Act intends should be done. Third, projects for the development and the conservation of the soil and water resources of Canada. This sounds extremely broad also, and it is. However, it is limited to this extent. Under ARDA only projects for soil and water development and conservation which have something to do with agricultural use can be undertaken, such as farm ponds, soil erosion control measures; drainage projects, irrigation, multiple-use water development projects.

Farming as an occupation may be much less important to the community twenty years hence than at present. The need is for alternative sources of employment, more profitable uses for land, and a higher standard of living for all members of the community, both off and on the farm. Agriculture—a stronger, healthier agriculture, with fewer people producing more food — will use the best land. Industrial development, tourist development and the establishment of wildlife preserves, tree farms, etc. will be encouraged on poorer lands. Much of this land will have been marginal for agriculture and will produce a higher return in dollars and in long-term pleasure for the region if used for purposes other than farming. For instance, several farmers living in a mountainous area might find that their land could be used for winter recreational sports which would be much more prof-

itable for them. However, under ARDA the government would only carry out the initial survey and land use study. It would be up to the local people and businesses to build and finance facilities for this project.

We are proud that Brome County has recently been declared by the provincial government a pilot area where ARDA is being tried out. This is one of the first counties in Canada to make use of the ARDA plan.

The support of influential business leaders, of farm leaders, and of local government must be enlisted if development is to take place. Farm and village are linked so firmly that any projects aimed at improving conditions for either will affect both. Co-operation between rural and urban people is essential for a sound rural development program.

In many cases, development areas will consist of districts around a large market town, including a number of villages. As the problems are studied and new goals worked out, the total community must be kept in mind. Often the solution to the problems of one will be possible only with the co-operation of the other.

In the final analysis rural development must be brought about by people. Provincial and Federal Governments will act for the people of the nation. It is up to the local community to act for the people of the area.

The sportsman looks on ARDA as bringing better hunting and fishing closer by. The city dweller looks on ARDA as being the means of saving the government and himself (the taxpayer) money from paying subsidies and deficiency payments, and also for more and better recreational facilities. The big farmer looks on ARDA as a means of eliminating the small farmer who, in his opinion, is creating the surplus of farm products. The small farmer looks on ARDA as a means of making himself bigger.

More and more we must as a society and acting at all levels, study and plan what we are doing and are going to do with our resources of land, water and people. There is no magic in ARDA. It is intended to help do what can be done and should be done. It isn't going to change what can't be done and shouldn't be done.



# THE MONTH WITH THE W.I.

## ABITIBI:

**Farmborough** discussed their yearly program, and are preparing a doll complete with wardrobe for a drawing. **Rouyn Noranda** had two guests speakers from the High School, Mrs. W. Ramsell and Mr. J. Oulton, who spoke on the Educational System in Quebec. A successful Bean Supper was held, with special mention that flowers were donated for the tables by a local flower shop.

## ARGENTEUIL:

**Brownsburg** remembered National Health Week — two films from the Cancer Society were shown, and their roll call was to name a new medicine or cure. **Dalesville-Louisa** held a military whist party and **Frontier** visited the Avon plant and Simpson's mail order department. **Jerusalem-Bethany** entertained the County President and **Pioneer's** guest speaker was Rev. Wilson Bridge, whose subject was "Marriage Counselling" — and the effect on small children with both mother and father working. **Upper Lachute-East End** made four quilts, two were given to needy families, and two to the Red Cross.

## BONAVENTURE:

**Black Cape** made aprons from a yard of cloth, and had a calendar contest. Another contest was to decipher the scrambled letters of Irish place names. **Marcil** celebrated their 15th Anniversary, with Mrs. Cameron Dow as honored guest. Students at local schools were given a treat of apples, and hot soup is being served to them. It is reported that the County Agricultural Society has offered to purchase seeds for the School Fair. Matapedia held their annual President's Dinner.

## BROME:

**Austin** are sending the Macdonald Journal to their Link in England. **Abecorn** held a White Elephant Sale and **Sutton** are knitting socks for the Red Cross, and cook-books donated by an insurance company were distributed. **South Bolton** collected Pennies for Friendship and **Knowlton's Landing** are to give two bursaries — one to Grade Nine and one to Grade Ten. A donation was made to provide milk for needy children.

## CHATEAUGUAY-HUNTINGDON:

**Aubrey-Riverfield** answered the roll call in French. Mrs. G. Easton spoke on "Educating Yourself for Retirement" **Dundee** had a demonstration on planting bulbs and a talk on how language changes. Their discussion was "Do Farmers Need as much Education as city people?" **Franklin** observed a minute's silence in memory of Mrs. Fred Stevenson. **Hemingford** visited the Botanical Gardens, and they report that members with "green thumbs" are to grow plants for shut-ins on special diets (to be given instead of cheer boxes) In an interesting talk, Mr. R. J. M. Reid, Agromome, warned against excessive use of spray bombs to kill insects. **Howick** received "Hints for House-cleaning", from Mrs. H. Craig, and their contest was to judge the right and wrong way of arranging furniture, drapes etc. 39 hats were made under the direction of Miss McOuat. **Huntingdon** made 33 hats. As a money raising project, members gave 5¢ for each foot of their height and 1¢ for each extra inch. **Ormstown** exchanged plants and seeds.

## GATINEAU:

**Aylmer East** are working for the Cancer Clinic, and a collection will go to the March of Dimes. **Eardley** — No Report. **Kazabazua** sponsored two card parties in aid of the School Rink. **Rupert** collected for the Red Cross and for

Pennies for Friendship; and **Wakefield** reports the same collections. **Wright** also collected for the Red Cross.

## MEGANTIC:

**Iverness** have completed a quilt, and **Kinnear's Mills** had an interesting talk by Mrs. Little, County President.

## PONTIAC:

**Beechgrove** had a sewing course and **Bristol** are preparing Christmas parcels for Korean orphans. **Clarendon** report that pennies in the collection each month will be used for Pennies for Friendship. W.I. pins were ordered, and a donation made to the local High School. **Elmside** are making Christmas stockings and **Fort Coulonge** told Irish jokes. A paper was read on the history of St. Patrick, and another on current events. **Quyon** sent three handmade quilts to the Unitarian Service Committee. Their roll call was to wear an oldtime or a hardtime costume. **Shawville** celebrated their 50th Anniversary with a banquet. A drawing was held on the 2nd tier of their anniversary cake. **Starks Corners** have ordered W.I. pins. They have a nickel cake and a mystery parcel at each meeting.

## RICHMOND:

**Cleveland** held an apron contest with 1st prize won by Mrs. Osborne, and 2nd by Miss Fletcher. **Gore's** contest was for Home-made bread, with the prize going to Mrs. Galen Coote. **Melbourne Ridge** are to buy seeds to revive their School Fair. **Richmond Hill** helped a needy family and are having a quilting. **Richmond Woung Women** had Rev. Eleanor Carr as guest speaker, her topic being Africa. Slides were also shown. **Shipton** taxed their brains with two contests — one on current events was won by Mrs. John Lodge, and one to identify 15 different spices was won by Mrs. S. Taylor. **Spooner Pond** have completed an applique quilt. Each member is to buy a tuberous begonia, and grow it for competition later.

## ROUVILLE:

**Abbotsford** are donating articles to the Gift Shop at the Verdun Protestant Hospital. A new member, Mrs. L. Coates was welcomed. A gift was presented to Miss Muriel Marshall for her many years of continued and outstanding service, and a remembrance given to Mrs. Elcombe, wife of the minister, who is leaving the community.

## SHERBROOKE:

**Ascot** reports a new member. **Belvidere** made a patchwork quilt and donated it to the Maplemount Home. Articles made at a course in Ceramic Tile were on display. **Brompton Road** held a card party with proceeds going to the Cancer Society. 404 cancer dressings were made. **Lennoxville** worked 10½ hours at the cancer dressing station, making 615 dressings. This branch also participated in the Ceramic Tile course, completing 78 items. Their roll call was to tell which meeting of the year they found most interesting, and why. **Milby** heard an article on the planting and care of begonias, and the Cuisinaire Method of teaching Arithmetic was explained by Mrs. Robert Suitor.

## STANSTEAD:

**Beebe** enjoyed films taken by Rev. Gustafson on a recent visit to England. **Hatley** enjoyed a travel talk on England and Scotland. **Minton** had a spelling contest on the names of different diseases and **Stanstead North's** roll call was "Why I Joined the W.I." **Ways Mills** — No Report.

## FROM THE OFFICE

**LOOM** — If anyone would like to purchase a floor loom in good condition contact the QWI Office.



# CLASSIFIEDS

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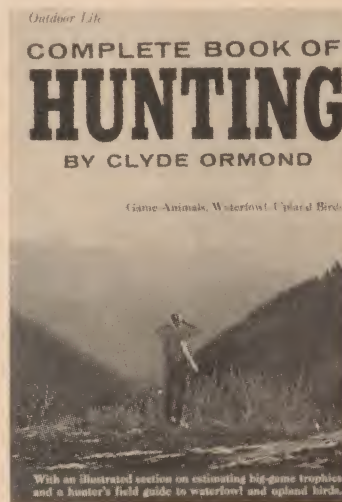
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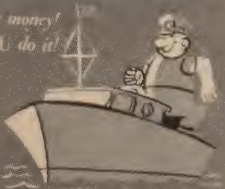
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## WEATHER WISE

Weather forecasts and summaries of climate are based upon measurements of such atmospheric conditions as temperature, wind, etc. These measurements are made at weather stations at the same time every day. The measurements and their use in weather forecasting fall within the branch of meteorology called synoptic meteorology. What are some of these measurements and how are they made?

Maximum and minimum temperatures and relative humidity are measured in a ventilated box about five feet from the ground surface. These are the measurements used to calculate average daily and monthly temperatures. Barometric pressure is a good measurement of the movement of high and low pressure areas. It can be measured at any convenient place because it is not changed by shading, etc. Wind speed and direction are measured in a place which is not influenced by buildings or trees.

For forecasting, it is also necessary to have measurements in the air a few miles up. Pressure, temperature and relative humidity are measured by instruments attached to balloons. The results are recorded and recovered, or are transmitted back to the station by radio. Wind direction and speed can be measured from the drift of the balloon. These measurements are plotted on a map which is then used to make the forecast.

Such measurements as height of cloud, percent of sky covered by cloud, and visibility are made because they are important for aviation.

Measurements required in agricultural meteorology differ from those for synoptic meteorology. They will be discussed in a future issue.

## For Your Information

### LIBRARIAN COURSE

A special short course for volunteer librarians will be held at Macdonald College from June 9th to June 14th, 1963. The program includes instruction in the classification of books, selection of children's books and adult books. There will also be tours of the library facilities at Macdonald College, speakers, films and discussions on the operation of smaller libraries throughout the province of Quebec. The cost for the course, including room, board and instruction, is \$25.00. Registration forms are available from the Dept. of Extension, Box 237, Macdonald College.

## Farm Forum News 'N' Views

### A YEAR OF CHANGE...

The past year has been one of experimentation in Farm Forum. Agriculture in Canada has been forced to make rapid changes in a very short period of time — changes which took industry over a hundred years to make. Canada's farmers are very different in 1963. Each one has chosen to farm or he would not have survived the low prices and high costs that have forced the change to larger units, more efficient methods and higher capital investment. There are now 440,000 farmers in Canada as compared with nearly a million in 1940. Each one of the 440,000 farmers has a much bigger stake in today's agriculture. A man might make a few mistakes on the farm in 1940 but if he makes very many mistakes today — he's out of business. Each farmer is or needs to be a specialist in his own field of agriculture. Farm Forum has tried to meet each of these new needs through improvements in the Guide and broadcast. National and Provincial offices work more closely together to ensure that your point of view comes through, loud and clear, to guide the selection and preparation of topics and to provide farm organization and government with a clear statement of the farm viewpoint on important issues.

The major changes which have made a contribution to the new Farm Forum in Canada are:

- 1) The Talkback idea is not new, but it is being given a better trial than ever before, and new advantages in its use have turned up. The Talkback involves having members ask questions which remain unanswered after the first broadcast.
- 2) Before such a program is possible one must be assured that all the "experts" who could become involved in answering, will be willing to do so. This means a degree of commitment to the program, particularly on the part of farm organizations, which we have seldom approached in the past. It can also mean that farm organizations in Canada will have to commit themselves as a matter of policy to Farm Forum. This is something which Farm Forum has needed badly. The Talkback idea may have brought such a commitment much closer.
- 3) Secretaries' Reports are coming on at the beginning of the broadcast now. This eliminates the break which occurred in the past between the broadcast and the discussion. We hope the new method will be successful.
- 4) The special interest groups have given new vitality and breadth to Farm Forum's services in rural Canada. This winter, the usual co-ops, farm organizations and Farm Forums have been joined by 4-H clubs, Home and School Association, Women's Institutes, Farm Women's Unions, Jubilees Guilds, Homemakers, Rural Development Committee members, and members of six different denominations. A massive project, involving more co-operators than ever before, remains to be carried out, as do the W.I., rural development and church programs, but all will be among the most complex and challenging undertakings ever begun by Farm Forum in Canada. People who have never known about us have come into the projects and people who did not care about farmers last year have taken some interest in this one. All of this, it seems to us, is good for Farm Forum and for farmers.

(An Excerpt from an address to the Quebec Farm Forum Association at their semi-annual meeting in February, 1963, by Roger Schwass, National Editor-Manager, Farm Forum).

### PIGS AND STRESS

The number of pigs in a pen can affect rates of gain, even though each pig has adequate floor space. University of Illinois scientists allowed 4 sq. feet of space per pig, for pigs weighing 120-150 lbs., but put a different number of pigs in each pen.

Gains were much lower for pigs kept 16 to a pen than for pens of 4 or 8 pigs. Pens with 4 pigs resulted in an average daily gain per animal of 1.39 lbs., compared to 1.05 lbs. for pens containing 16 pigs. The number of pigs per pen may affect the degree of stress.